

The Times-Dispatch

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SUNDAY, AUGUST 2, 1908.

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NEGROES AND WHITE WOMEN

We take the following from the New York Evening Post, which it appears under a Mason, Ga., date line:

Sir,—I send you enclosed an editorial item from the Portland Oregonian. It is right. I think this positive talk from Northern and Western Journals will have a fine effect. Negro teachers and preachers and professors have made great capital out of the lynchings. They rush North, cry out about the cruelty to the down-trodden negro, get up sympathies and "pull the leg" of the charitable and "pull the leg" of the money but not to do violence. They never advise what the Oregonian advises, to stop criminal assault, and the rest will adjust itself. We can tolerate all other things, but this assaulting our women. It is now a fearful problem. What we need is an uprising in favor of protection to white women. They are entitled to peace and security along the highways; they are entitled to security and quiet and peace at home on the farm. None should make or make them afraid to live on a farm or be a farmer's wife. But they never know!

It is this disturbance of the home; this unnatural disregard of the sacredness of a woman; this blow to farm life, that enrage our people so when a rape is committed.

Our hope is in the North. Outspoken editorials and sermons in behalf of white women will set negro preachers and teachers and college professors to put forth some effort to stop it. As it is now, they make capital of it.

JAMES CALLAWAY.

The editorial referred to did not appear in the Post along with Mr. Callaway's communication, or, if it did, it escaped our observation.

It is a fact that country life, which ought usually to be attractive, pleasant and profitable, is now a terror to many white women. In "some" localities in the Southern States they are afraid to be left alone a moment, and dread to have to take a walk alone to the spring or to the barn.

We do not encourage lawlessness in any form or under any guise whatsoever, but it is an unavoidable fact that "what we need is an uprising in favor of protection to white women," and we doubt not that "outspoken editorials and sermons in behalf of the white women will set negro preachers and teachers and college professors to put forth some effort to stop the 'crime'."

That is in line with the policy this paper advocates. Worthy negroes should come out boldly against the lustful law-breakers of their race. We know of no other reforming agency that could or would be half so powerful.

This crime must cease, else there can be no peace between the whites and blacks, neither in the South nor in the North.

The more the Northern people learn about the why and wherefore of lynchings in the South, less and less will the young male negro be welcome in that section of the country. When Northerners learn—and that they are doing fast—that the presence of crowds of male negroes in their community means danger to their wives and daughters, they will be no more tolerant of their darker visitors than Southerners would be. Indeed, hundreds of negroes of late have been chased out of Northern communities and for safety have fled to their old Southern homes.

We want to see the worthy and influential members of the black race bestirring themselves in this matter. It would be worth their while to do so. It is dreadful to contemplate what will be the ultimate attitude of the two races toward one another, unless a stop be put to this monstrous crime—a crime characteristic of the freedman; one that was well-nigh unknown in the days of slavery.

Again, we say to the good men and good women of the blacks, Rise up and show your hostility to this crime, and give evidence of a fixed purpose to help stamp it out.

JUDGE SIMS' CHARGE.

The jury which tried Sheriff Simon Solomon, of Henrico, on the charge of "gross neglect of duty," in connection with the alleged disorder in the early stages of the street-car strike, failed to agree and were discharged as the case has not been finally disposed of. We refrain from comment, but we are constrained to direct special attention to the charge of Judge Sims to the jury, which ought to be published in every State newspaper and carefully studied by every conservator of the peace.

Judge Sims points out clearly and emphasizes the fact that in time of disorder or riot in any county it is the duty of the sheriff to be on the alert to make diligent inquiry in order to inform himself as to the facts and the general situation, that it is his duty to use all diligence to restore peace and preserve order.

that it is his duty to run down and arrest all persons who violate the law, and that as soon as he has good reason to believe that the rioters are beyond the control of his deputies it is his bounden duty to ask for troops.

"The moment he has reasonable apprehension of a breach of the peace, riot or other resistance to law," says Judge Sims, "he is entitled, and is, in fact, bound to intervene and may arrest on view all persons breaking or attempting to break the peace, and if he does not do so, and is guilty of negligence as above defined in not doing so, he should be found guilty of gross neglect of official duty." And this in conclusion:

"Merely because a ministerial officer has a discretion to exercise as to the methods and instrumentalities to be employed in the discharge of a duty imposed upon him by law, he is not in consequence thereof possessed of the immunity of a judicial officer. Although the calling out of the militia under section 33 of the Code depends upon the discretion of the sheriff, would he negligently as above defined refuse or fails to call them out on a proper occasion, he takes upon himself the responsibility of any injury which may result therefrom to the public peace and good order, and the occurring of said violation of the public peace will justify his removal. Mere honesty of intention, nor the fact that he fully believes that the best thing was not to call out the militia, will not excuse him unless such belief would have been entertained under the circumstances by a man of ordinary prudence and honesty."

Of course the sheriff of a county or the mayor of a city, as the case may be, should exercise prudence and discretion in calling for troops, for it is a serious thing to ask the Governor to send soldiers into any community. But it is a more serious thing for such an officer to fail to call for troops when their presence is needed to protect life and property, to preserve order and to uphold the law. No such officer is bound under his oath to wait until there has been an overt act from the mob. In his case, as in all others, the proverbial ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. When an officer whose duty it is to preserve the peace has good reason to believe that the mob violence is threatened, it is his duty first of all to endeavor with his own deputies to prevent the mob from assembling, and if he is satisfied in his own mind that he cannot do this and that if the mob does assemble, he will be unable with the civil force at his command to restrain and control its action, it is his bounden duty to ask for troops. It is far better to have the soldiers present before the mob forms and begins its work of destruction than to wait for the overt act and then shoot to kill. In a time of great public excitement there are men who need to be saved from themselves. Some men who in ordinary times are peaceful and law-abiding, will under excitement lose their heads and engage in mob violence. Such men should be prevented from joining the mob, and the best way we know of to prevent them is to have a plentiful supply of armed soldiers on the ground.

The same rule applies to the Governor of the State, as we have already tried to point out. The Constitution makes him the executive officer of the State, and imposes upon him the duty of seeing that the laws are upheld. The Governor has no right to sit quietly in his office like a figurehead and wait for the local officer to call for troops, when he knows that the law in a given community is being openly violated, and that the presence of troops is necessary to preserve order. The very genius of the law is preventive. We do not punish criminals in any spirit of revenge or retaliation; we punish them as a warning to others. The punishment for certain defined crimes is fixed with a view to deterring men from committing these crimes. And so it is the first duty of all sheriffs and mayors to prevent disorder and riot, and when such officers are convinced in their own minds that they cannot prevent disturbances by the civil forces at their command, it is their bounden and sworn duty to ask for troops. Such is the law as declared by Judge Sims from the bench, and sheriffs and mayors in Virginia must govern themselves accordingly.

A MODEL CITIZEN.

The Roanoke Evening News prints an interesting sketch of the career of the late Frederick J. Kimball, president of the Norfolk and Western Railway Company, which shows, as The Times-Dispatch recently declared in its editorial column, that Mr. Kimball was one of the most enterprising and progressive men in Virginia, and did perhaps as much as any other man has ever done in promoting the industrial welfare of the State.

Mr. Kimball came to Virginia in 1878 and interested himself in the construction of the Shenandoah Valley Railroad, being elected president of the road in 1881. In the same year he was elected vice-president of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, becoming its president two years later, and from that time until his death he was closely identified with the road and its collateral interests. It is hard to realize that when he was elected president of the Norfolk and Western there was no coal industry, there was no development of the great mineral wealth of the Southwest, there were no furnaces and machine shops in that section, and with the exception of Lynchburg and Petersburg there was only one town having as many as three thousand inhabitants between Norfolk and Bristol. Indeed, the Norfolk and Western Road was purchased as a feeder to the Shenandoah Valley Road, which was then considered the more valuable property!

But this state of things did not continue for long under Mr. Kimball's management. We have not the space to go much into the details, but it is sufficient to say that he built the New River Road into the Pocahontas coal fields and then extended it into Ohio with a view to making a market in the West for his coal. He then purchased the Seloto Valley Railroad which gave him a line as far as Columbus, Ohio. It was not long before the coal mines began to yield, and then Mr. Kimball built the Cripple Creek Road from Pulaski, which tapped the rich iron mines of that section. He invited capitalists to come in and take possession of the raw materials which he had unearthed, and utilize them. He built the road from Norfolk to Lambert's

Point and established splendid terminal facilities there for the delivery of coal. He acquired the Roanoke and Southern Road from Lynchburg to Durham, with a view to getting a Southern outlet and tapping the tobacco fields and tobacco towns along the line of that road, and finally extended the Cripple Creek Road to Norton, where he made connection with the Louisville and Nashville.

These were well laid plans, and it is not necessary to speak of the results, for they are known to all men. From being a purely agricultural section Southwest Virginia became one of the greatest mining and manufacturing sections of the South, towns and cities sprang up in a few years, and the coal fields of Virginia and West Virginia are now among the largest producers in the world of steam coal and coke.

As an example of what Mr. Kimball's plans accomplished, our Roanoke contemporary says that "whereas that section of the country now known as the coal fields was practically a wilderness, with sparse population, when Mr. Kimball began his work, to-day from 100,000 to 150,000 people are at work." This, to say nothing of the wonderful development and growth all along the road and its branches from the Southwest to the seaboard. The News does not claim that Mr. Kimball did all this unaided and alone, but it does claim for him, and rightfully claims for him, that "he was the principal cause of these conditions, and that his initiative, energy and perseverance have been the largest factors in this unprecedented growth throughout Virginia."

We go farther, and say that Mr. Kimball was the pioneer in collateral development on the part of the railroads of the South. When he came upon the scene Southern railroad companies did not attempt to do more than to operate their roads and haul freight and passengers. Their managers seemed to think that there was so much business and no more for the road, and that nothing which the company might do would increase it. Mr. Kimball took a broader view. He saw that a road could largely increase its traffic by aiding in the development of the country through which it passed. He saw that every mine opened, every furnace and factory erected, every town enlarged and every new enterprise of whatever character which he could bring into existence would be a contributor to the traffic of the Norfolk and Western Road, and his highest hopes were more than realized. He saw that a general and progressive policy on the part of a railroad company was as broad as upon the waters. So well did he demonstrate this that it has now become the settled policy of all the Southern roads to do everything in their power to promote the industrial and commercial growth and welfare of the country tapped by their lines, and most of these companies have agents whose only business is to promote.

But Mr. Kimball was so modest and retiring that few people, except those who were closely associated with him, knew what a wondrous work he did for the State. So many of us look at results rather than at causes and in all this development we are apt to forget the man who inaugurated the movement and largely conducted it to a successful conclusion—not conclusion, either, for the work will go on and the development will continue for all time to come.

We think proper to pay this deserved tribute to a modest gentleman, who has done so much for the State, and who has now gone to his reward. But our main purpose is to draw some useful lessons from Mr. Kimball's career. He set a fine example in good citizenship. He did not live to himself. He had a certain talent and he employed it for the good of others. He did far more for the State of Virginia than if he had paid off the public debt. He showed her the hidden wealth she possessed, and showed her how to develop it. He showed the railroads in helping the State they helped themselves. He put new life and energy into the people of the South, and his influence was felt throughout the Commonwealth. He taught the greatness of all lessons, that it is more blessed to give than to receive. The railroads, the industries and the cities which he built are monuments to his memory, more durable and more honorable than brass.

THE PARTY LAW.

In reply to a request from the Leesburg Washingtonian-Mirror, Hon. A. C. Braxton, of Staunton, has given his views at length on the subject of the viva voce system of voting.

The Leesburg paper asked Mr. Braxton for his opinion of the plan as applied to Democratic primaries, and the effect he believed it would have upon the primary system of the State and the Democratic party in particular.

Mr. Braxton replies that he is opposed to the viva voce system, whether applied to general elections or to primaries. He calls attention to the fact that an effort in the recent Constitutional Convention to have this system applied to regular elections failed, and he thinks it was a mistake to adopt it in the primaries. "Elections are held," says Mr. Braxton, "not to test men's courage, but to obtain a reliable expression of their real views; and I doubt if any method could be designed which would more effectively defeat this object than the system of viva voce voting. When a man is acting in a representative capacity, his vote should always be viva voce and public, because his constituents have the right to know, in the most reliable way possible, how he, as their representative, votes on any and every question, and to hold him responsible therefor; but it is very different when a man is voting in his own right, because in doing this he acts as a sovereign free citizen, and is accountable to no other man. Every man's opinions are his own and he should be at perfect liberty to give them to the public or to keep them to himself, just as he chooses. In the matter of elections, therefore, it is almost, if not fully, as great an infringement upon his personal liberty to compel him to state publicly his choice of candidates as to refuse him the privilege of voluntarily doing so; and any such requirement, I believe, will be regarded by many men as an attempt to coerce or bulldoze them, and will be accordingly resented by their refusal to vote at all."

It is not necessary to say to those who have read The Times-Dispatch on the subject of viva voce voting that the best way to get a full and free expression of the voters is through the secret ballot. But that is neither here nor there. The Constitution provides that in regular elections the voting shall be by ballot, but the party law requires that the voting in primary elections shall be viva voce. If we are going to have a party law it should be obeyed. The State Convention declared in favor of primaries and directed the State Committee to promulgate a plan. The committee decided in favor of the viva voce system of voting, and it behooves Democrats in all sections to follow the rule.

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The truth is that not as much whiskey as formerly is now drunk in the State. The people, as a rule, are soberer than they used to be.

The change is not of recent date, but has been going on steadily for many years. Time was when a Virginia planter thought it indispensable to have a runlet in the field where the wheat or oat cutters were at work, and every one was at liberty to drink therefrom as much as he liked. In those days what was called "harvest whiskey" could be bought at from twenty-five to thirty-five cents per gallon. It was sometimes bought by the barrel; often enough by the runlet—five or ten gallons.

We have still some pretty stalwart drinkers in the Old Dominion—men who do not know how to control their appetites for intoxicants—but they are not numerous, compared with the whole population. And then, too, the number of harvesters is smaller than it was in old times. For this there are two reasons.

The acreage put into wheat and oats is not as great as in the halcyon days, and the introduction of labor-saving machinery makes it unnecessary to employ as many harvesters as formerly. Somehow, it appears that the temptation to drink to excess is increased where men assemble in large crowds. And so the absence of the "little brown jug" from so many harvest fields may be accounted for.

DIVINE INFLUENCE AND REFRESHING.

(Selected for The Times-Dispatch.)

"I will consider in my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest."—Isaiah xviii, 4.

Preachers should be very sparing of their invocations on the translation of the Scriptures in common use, not only because they tend to shake confidence and awaken suspicion in their hearers, but because they are generally needless. It is not illiteracy that commends the present version; the ablest scholars are the most satisfied with it upon the whole. Yet while the original is divine, the rendering is human; and, therefore, we need not wonder if an occasional alteration is necessary. This is peculiarly the case where the sense is very obscure or even imperceptible without it.

If the words as they now stand in the text remain, his "dwelling place" is heaven, and the meaning is, that he would there consider how to succor and bless his people, for he careth for them; but a word must be supplied to show the import: "I will consider in my dwelling place" how I can prove "like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest." But the margin and Lowth and every modern expositor make his "dwelling place" not the place of his consideration but the object, and read: "I will regard my dwelling place like a clear heat upon herbs, and like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest!"

Now what his dwelling place was we can easily determine. It was Zion: "Whose dwelling is in Zion." "This is my rest forever; here will I dwell, for I have desired it. And Watts has well added: "The God of Jacob chose the hill Of Zion for his dwelling rest; And Zion is his ancient still."

His church is with his presence blest." And his concern for the welfare of the one is far surpassed by his regard for the other. And how is this regard exercised? Here are two images.

First, "like a clear heat upon herbs." The margin again says, "Like a clear heat after rain;" and I wish, says the excellent translator of Isaiah, who has adopted it, that there was better evidence in support of it. The reason is, that he probably feared, as others in reading it may fear, that "a clear heat upon herbs" would be rather unfavorable, and cause them to droop, if not to die. And this would be the case in some instances, but not in all; and it is enough for a metaphor to have one just and strong resemblance. Read the dying words of David: "And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds; as the tender grass springing out of the earth by clear shining after rain." Now after rain "the clear shining," or "a clear heat upon herbs," would produce immediately fresh vigor and shootings. Even in our own climate the effect upon the grass and plants is soon visible; but in the East the influence is much more sudden and surprising, and the beholders can almost see the herbage thrive and flourish. Thus the Lord can quicken his people in his ways, and strengthen them in the things that remain and are ready to die. And when after the softening comes the sunshine, they grow in grace and in the knowledge of their Lord and Saviour. Their "faith groweth exceedingly, and the charity of every one to one towards each other aboundeth."

They bear much fruit. Thus we read of "increasing with all the increase of God." This figure, therefore, expresses growth and fertility.

But the second holds forth refreshment, seasonable refreshment: "Like a cloud of dew in the heat of harvest." How cooling, useful, welcome, delightful such an appearance is, ask the laborer in the field. In the Eastern field, bearing the burden and heat of the day, God, as the God of all comfort, realizes the truth and force of this image in the experience of his tried followers. First, in their spiritual exercises and depressions arising from the assaults of temptation, a sense of their unworthiness and imperfections, and fears concerning their safety and perseverance. And, secondly, in their outward afflictions. These may be many; and if our strength is small, we shall faint in the day of adversity. But when we cry he answers us, and strengthens us with strength in our souls. He gives us a little reviving in our bondage, and in the multitude of our thoughts within us his comforts delight our souls. He is able and engaged to comfort us in all our tribulation. By the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, by his preaching of his ordinances, by the presence of a friend, by a letter, a book, a particular occurrence of providence, a time of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and a cloud of dew be furnished in the heat of harvest.

Such is the God of love to his people. Are his consolations small with us? O that we were better acquainted with his perfections, his covenants, his promises and the joy of his salvation. Let creatures help out our meditations of him, we lose much in not using nature as a handmaid to grace. Let us aid our faith even by our senses. What a state will that be where God will be all in all!

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The like is true of Virginia, we believe.

The truth is that not as much whiskey as formerly is now drunk in the State. The people, as a rule, are soberer than they used to be.

The change is not of recent date, but has been going on steadily for many years. Time was when a Virginia planter thought it indispensable to have a runlet in the field where the wheat or oat cutters were at work, and every one was at liberty to drink therefrom as much as he liked. In those days what was called "harvest whiskey" could be bought at from twenty-five to thirty-five cents per gallon. It was sometimes bought by the barrel; often enough by the runlet—five or ten gallons.

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Columbia, Mo., has a noteworthy instance of longevity in the person of Mrs. Henrietta Hume. It is stated that she has documentary evidence showing that she is one hundred and four years old. She has a son, Reuben Hume, who has now arrived at the age of seventy-nine. Mrs. Hume was born in the first Catholic and was christened in that city. Her church ever built in that city. Her mother was Elizabeth Currier, "niece of James Monroe, President of the United States." It is said that the family once lived on the banks of the Potomac River, opposite the city of Washington, and that "they were there at the time of the burning of the Capitol by the British in 1812." Mrs. Hume lost her eyesight entirely when sixty years old, but recovered it later to some extent, but is now nearly blind again.

The New York Sun calls for the abolition of the West Point Academy. That is its way of showing its disgust with the President in "jumping" his old friend and fellow Rough Rider, Leonard Wood, over the heads of 44 other officers. "Some of these were honor men at West Point," others, it says, served at Gettysburg and Sharpsburg, but how many of them, it asks, can "distinguish between colic and appendicitis? How many of them can administer sub-nitrate of bismuth or colocythn hyoseyamus? It is such soldierly duties as these that call for the abolition of West Point and the establishment of a greater school, where the future generals of the army may learn the art of medicine and the science of smooth politics."

Special correspondents in Rome telegraph that King Leopold, of Belgium, prompted by Thomas F. Walsh, the Colorado mining king and multi-millionaire, will offer to the new Pope immediately after his election, a large part of the territory of the Congo Free State for the purpose of establishing there a new independent papal State, which would give back to the head of the Roman Catholic Church its lost temporal power.

Possibly such an offer may be made, but it never will be accepted as the home of "the Bishop of Rome," whose seat must continue to be where it now is.

Weather like that of yesterday is calculated to remind us that the time is coming when the coal cellar must be looked after and the theatres are to be reopened and attended.

The heaviest rain of the season fell at Lowell, Mass., the day after the explosion of the big powder magazine there. Rain-making scientists will please make a note of this fact.

That little Cuban revolution came just in time to give the money sharks the desired opportunity to put up the interest rate on President Palma.

The Dakota cool wave came into Virginia right on schedule time, and received a hearty welcome everywhere except at the mountain resorts.

The negro immigration movement is headed southward from Indiana and Illinois, and it is said to be reaching the avalanche proportions.

Seventeen negroes have been lynched in the State of Illinois within the past ten years, and Illinois was the home of Lincoln.

But "Mother Jones" is not willing to change her color just to have an interview with the President of the United States.

Tom Johnson intends to see to it that there is no lack of fun in the political arena this year.

The great union railroad depot at Washington will cost \$14,000,000, and will be the finest one in the world.

The new name for the old South Boston Times is the Halifax Gazette, and not Record, as we recorded it yesterday.

As a spectacular performance, Borelli's comet is a flat failure.

It will not be too cool to go to church to-day.

Surry county is going to have a plenty to drink, Mann law or no Mann law.

And the Solomon case is still with us.

Remarks About Richmond.

West Point News: The quiet of the York River crib has been disturbed recently by the Richmond "duckers."

Newport News (Times-Herald): Richmond is trying to forget the strike in a sensational suicide, a confession of murder and the absence of a broker.

Blackstone Courier: Richmond is to have a new paper. It is to be a weekly and called the Cavalier. The first issue will contain a mixture of newspaper and magazine, or paper after that order. It is a matter of regret that we have in the South no good magazine or paper after that order. We hope the Cavalier will fill this vacancy.

Events of the Week Under Brief Review.

We recently asked for information: "What the outcome of General Shafter's? The enquiry has been answered by an item which we find in the local department of the Chicago Inter-Ocean, which says:

"Gen. William H. Shafter, who captured Santiago de Cuba a few seasons ago, landed in Chicago in unconditional surrender yesterday to Chicago's cheering throngs. He arrived here at noon from Detroit on his way to California, where he lives. He left Chicago at 10 o'clock last night. In the ten hours he was in the city he lost thirteen and a half pounds.

"No, I won't miss what I lost; I have over 100 pounds left, and as I am fully at departing, 'However, I am glad I do not live here. I might melt away entirely.'"

A "Home Rule" party has been organized in Hawaii, and the party has just held a convention, particulars of which have been reported during the past week by the new Pacific cable. The Springfield Republican thinks the formation of the party is a step in the right direction, "that possibly we have a Pacific Ocean Ireland on our hands." While Mr. Wilcox's proposal that Congress be petitioned to grant to Hawaii an independence equivalent to Cuba's was laid aside by the convention as premature, there is no reason to doubt that a petition for such action would be signed by nearly every native in the Hawaiian Islands. And the native voters are in a majority, which is to state that, in the Japanese and Chinese, the home rule movement has the mass of the citizens behind it. Even "Kamehameha," the Honolulu correspondent of the Washington Star, admits this. In a recent letter he depicts the growing race antagonism between the natives and the whites, and describes the organization of a native political party whose aim is to exclude all white men, or "outlanders," from office. The former was stated to have great influence into the scale in favor of the movement. The element that succeeded in overthrowing the native government in 1893, and finally securing annexation to the United States, assert that all this trouble is due to the folly of Congress in conceding to the Hawaiian people the franchise. With a voting power that enables them to control the Legislature, the home rulers have secured a "home rule" which will give a little white oligarchy of planters, which the annexationists had anticipated. It should be added that surrounding the annexationists are the elements in the electorate are the Chinese, and especially the Japanese, who by far outnumber whites and natives combined.

President Roosevelt evidently believes that all that can be done by way of ferreting out the race in the Postoffice Department has been done, and that the day and the night can be finished in a short while. At any rate, the report is in Washington, that he has urged Mr. Blount to hurry up his performance, and have everything finished, and cleared up by the 1st of September.

In the "History of the Nineteenth Century," which is now appearing in the Bookman, a remarkable revelation is made in the last week's number.

It is that while Bernhard Gillam was making his scathing cartoons for Puck of James G. Blaine as "Blaine Man," he was serving as an ardent Republican, voted for Mr. Blaine for President, and while he was cutting so deep into the life of the President, he was actually unpleasant caricatures of Cleveland and the Democratic party for Judge.

The financial statement made last week of the city of New York in this announcement: "Within a few months the city will have a debt margin of \$100,000,000. An obliging contractor has offered to build the city a new sewerage system for \$100,000,000 cash in the pocket, under the charter, will leave the city where it can borrow that amount of money. The test of successful finance in that municipality becomes a matter of borrowing capacity; and it must be said that the same test prevails in the case of many a seedy individual."

"Is this good year of our Lord 1908, the year of the 'Coke' standard?" asks the Boston Globe. Without rehearsing the many horrible accidents on the rail and elsewhere the Globe says there is enough to give an affirmative answer to its question. It says:

There is certainly some warrant for thinking so. We had April weather in March, June weather in May, a drought of fifty days beginning April 15th, and a kind of kind of weather with mosquito accompaniment.

The bottom has meanwhile dropped out of the stock market, and the Pope has been in the service, the Pope has died, while the daily papers have presented a gloomy record of crimes, and the streets are full of suicides, to say nothing of the "fight to a finish" in which labor and capital are now engaged.

If the rest of the year sustains its record made thus far the prophets of evil will have the best showing yet secured.

Has it anything to do with the fact that the digits in 1908, added up, give the number 36, which is the number of the "fight to a finish" in which labor and capital are now engaged?

The report of the United States Commission on Education just made public, shows that there are nearly as many teachers in the universities of the United States as there are in the primary schools. The number of professors in the colleges and universities in this country, according to this report, is 17,000, while the number of students in the universities and university colleges of the United Kingdom is put down at 2,000.

The best financial authorities tell us that it cannot be doubted that large quantities of the paper money now being absorbed from day to day by investors. There are plenty of opportunities now to obtain security, and the steady return of 5 per cent. annually, and it is believed that the share list will remain on a 6 per cent. basis for some time to come.

For some reason, unknown to us, the political sharpshooters of the Hon. Bourke Cockran as a very